

Contributions

A Brother's Tender Tribute

The following lines were written by Rev. D. C. Moomaw to commemorate the virtues of his deceased brother, W. Price Moomaw, Esq., third son of Rev. B. F. and Mary A. Moomaw of Bonsacks, who died at his beautiful home "Huntingdon," last Thursday, May 30, 1900.

"BROTHER PRICE"

Whose throne was third in mother's heart?
Who nobly did a brother's part?
Who life's hard battle bravely fought?

Brother Price

Who loved his neighbor as himself?
Not for sordid paltry pelf,
That God would love him and defend!

Brother Price.

Whose spacious heart and frontal door
Were open wide for rich and poor?
Who fed and clothed them o'er and o'er?

Brother Price.

Who wrought his duty as a man?
Who built a structure which will stand
In people's hearts, both great and grand?

Brother Price.

Who loved his country next to God?
Whose weal his first and chiefest good
Which was to him as daily food?

Brother Price.

Who hated sin, and with his breath,
Did blast unrighteous deeds, accurst
And with strong hand the foul blow turn'st

Brother Price.

Who loved his church as Jesus did?
Who wrought whate'er the Master bid?
Whose faith in God was firmly stayed?

Brother Price

Whose death was mourned by great and small,
Best loved and loving, each and all,
Friends staunch and true, in every thrall;

Brother Price.

Whose grave was crowned with rarest flowers,
Out-rivaling Edenic bowers,
Tear-washed in loving, copious showers?

Brother Price.

Who passed from earth's distracting cares,
From poisoned darts and satan's snares,
Who, heaven's rest with seraphs shares?

Brother Price.

Who sleeps the peaceful sleep in Christ?
Who waits the awakening trumpet blast,
To come with victory's palms at last?

Brother Price.

Who will eternal epochs pass
Among the ransomed and the blest,
The gift of Jesus' love, thru trust?

Brother Price

EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY

Synopsis of a sermon preached by Wm. W. Summers, of North Manchester, at the State Conference, Oakville, Ind.

Text: II Pet. 1: 21, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Many have been the themes and theories advanced in regard to revealed religion, evidences of Christianity, and the authenticity of the Bible, and many are the witnesses that brought their testimony to bear against the wonderful words of truth. But with all their intellectual powers and higher criticism, with fulcrum and chisel in the hands of its enemies not a sand or fleak has ever been removed from the sure foundation. Isa. 28:

16, "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation." Our text says that the prophecy came not by the will of man, but by the Holy Ghost. The prophecy that came by the will of man said that when a hundred years have passed Christianity with its influences will have been forgotten but the prophecy that came by the Holy Ghost says, "My word shall not return unto me void but shall accomplish that which I please and prosper in the things whereunto I sent it."

The evidences are that the foundation is sure. Eph. 2: 19, 20, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."

The prophet Daniel says, "I beheld until



WILLIAM W. SUMMERS.

a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and his glory shall fill the whole earth and of his reign and kingdom there shall be no end." Many fear to examine the Bible, fearing that their own preconceived ideas should be overthrown. An ancient philosopher refused to look thru Galileo's telescope at the stary heavens lest he should see that which would unsettle his faith in Aristotle's philosophy. Infidels read the Bible, but actuated by the same spirit that prompted Herod to say, Matt. 2: 8, "Go search diligently for the young child and when you have found him bring me word." pretending to worship him, but intentionally to kill him. No book extent has been subjected to so much criticism, none other could have endured the strain. Only the volume that has God for its author, truth for its subject, and salvation for its end; only the everlasting Gospel could have withstood the fiery darts of the wicked. If the opposers of revealed religion would consume half as much time in trying to find the channel that leads out into the vast ocean of divine truth as they do searching for snags, reefs and contradictions they would steer clear of all obstacles, sail out on the deep and mighty waters of God's

love, be brought to an experimental knowledge of the gospel of Christ.

I stand beside an old sailor who has been plowing the mighty deep for years, he says, "I see a sail in the distant," but I fail even to catch a glimpse of it, my vision is too weak. Would it be logical for me to deny the fact? Surely not. Is it not very unwise for the opposer of Christianity, standing beside the true Christian whose vision has been strengthened by the power of the Holy Ghost, to say, "I see nothing as evidence of Christianity." The Christian sees and knows for himself.

Job 19: 25, "I know that my Redeemer lives" Paul, II Cor. 5: 1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal and in the heavens." I John 3: 14, "We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren." The atheist may see nothing in the evidences of Christianity, but the Christian, like the immortal dreamer, Bunyan, surrounded by opposition, beholds the fruits of paradise waving in the celestial city. The opposer of Christian evidences look into an open grave as his brightest future but the Christian looks thru it into an open heaven. Death with him does not end all, it is not the closing act in the drama. He closes his eyes upon the visible and perishable to open them on things eternal and divine. Is the Bible a revelation from God? Is it evidence of Christianity? The text says, "Holy men spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" Many quotations beginning with "Thus saith the Lord," "Hear ye the word of the Lord," "The testimony of the Lord," "The statutes of the Lord," "The commandments of the Lord;" are not all these evidences upon which we can rely.

Geology brings from the depths below the testimony of the rocks that they had a beginning showing the handiwork of a Creator. Astronomy, likewise, reads to us from the heavens a geometrical demonstration of fundamental principles and truth. Every orb has its magnitude set off by a scale, its material weighed in a balance, its distance measured by a line. A glance at this wonderful system tells that the hand of revelation is displayed in it all. "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork." What greater evidences do we need than the works of God in creation, when we look back in the beginning, when no sun illuminated the void of space, no moon relieved the darkness of night, nor stars twinkled in the blue vault of heaven. God was the alone existence then and was all that he is now in wisdom, power, love, and happiness; alone he inhabited the solitudes of eternity. What awe and reverence should such thoughts awaken in every heart. No mistake was made in creating and setting in motion all this wonderful machinery, and after we consider all this, the psalmist would ask, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?"